

In the Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (previously presented) A method for assessing overcoming synaptic vesicle glutamate uptake inhibition activity, comprising:

- a) providing:
 - i) synaptic vesicles,
 - ii) a composition comprising a purified fodrin fragment having glutamate uptake inhibition activity, said fragment having an N-terminus and a C-terminus, and
 - iii) a candidate compound; and
- b) combining said candidate compound with said synaptic vesicles and said fragment such that the effect of said candidate compound on glutamate uptake by said synaptic vesicles can be assessed.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein said purified fragment comprises IPF α .

17. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein said purified fragment comprises IPF β .

18. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein said purified fragment comprises IPF γ .

19. (previously presented) A method for assessing overcoming synaptic vesicle glutamate uptake inhibition activity, comprising:

- a) providing:
 - i) synaptic vesicles,
 - ii) a composition comprising a purified fragment of IPF having synaptic vesicle glutamate uptake inhibition activity, said fragment having an N-terminus and a C-terminus, and
 - iii) a candidate compound; and
- b) combining said candidate compound with said synaptic vesicles and said purified fragment such that the effect of said candidate compound on

said fragment's effect on glutamate uptake by said synaptic vesicles can be assessed.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein said fragment comprises a fragment of IPF α .

21. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein said fragment comprises a fragment of IPF β .

22. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein said fragment comprises a fragment of IPF γ .

23. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein said N-terminus is Tyr²⁶ of fodrin.

24. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein said purified fragment comprises a fragment of IPF α .

25. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein said N-terminus is Tyr²⁶ of fodrin.

26. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein said purified fragment comprises a fragment of IPF α .

27. (previously presented) A method for assessing overcoming synaptic vesicle glutamate uptake inhibition activity, comprising:

- a) providing:
 - i) synaptic vesicles,
 - ii) a composition comprising a purified fragment of fodrin having glutamate uptake inhibition activity, said fragment having an N-terminus and a C-terminus, wherein said purified fragment comprises a peptide having the amino acid sequence EAALTSEEVG within 150 amino acids of the C-terminus of the peptide, and
 - iii) a candidate compound; and

b) combining said candidate compound with said synaptic vesicles and said fragment such that the effect of said candidate compound on glutamate uptake by said synaptic vesicles can be assessed.

28. (previously presented) A method for assessing overcoming synaptic vesicle glutamate uptake inhibition activity, comprising:

- a) providing:
 - i) synaptic vesicles,
 - ii) a composition comprising a purified peptide having glutamate uptake inhibition activity with an N-terminus sequence comprising the amino acid sequence YHRFK, and
 - iii) a candidate compound; and
- b) combining said candidate compound with said synaptic vesicles and said fragment such that the effect of said candidate compound on glutamate uptake by said synaptic vesicles can be assessed.

29. (previously presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein said purified peptide has an N-terminus comprising the amino acid sequence YHRFKELSTL.

30. (previously presented) The method of Claim 29, wherein said purified peptide has an N-terminus comprising the amino acid sequence YHRFKELSTLRRQKLEDSYR.